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(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Warren J. Ebenezer et al

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filed: July 07, 2003

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: FIBRE REACTIVE AZO DYES

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS PAT APPLN Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 7-12 and add the following new claims.

- -- 13. A dyestuff as claimed in claim 1, wherein X_1 and X_2 are halogen.
- 14. A dyestuff as claimed in claim 12, wherein X_1 and X_2 are chlorine.
- 15. A dyestuff as claimed in claim 1, wherein M is H or an alkaline metal.
- 16. A dyestuff as claimed in claim 14, wherein M is sodium.
- 17. A dyestuff as claimed in claim 1, wherein R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are H.
- 18. A dyestuff as claimed in claim 1, wherein a = b = 2 with x = 0 and y = 1 or x = 1 and y = 1